

## NOTES

**JUNCUS CAPITATUS WEIGEL (JUNCACEAE) IN LOUISIANA: NEW TO THE UNITED STATES.**—In May, 1964, while collecting weedy plants along the recently created Interstate Highway 20 between Monroe and Ruston, Louisiana, I came across an annual *Juncus* which was growing in considerable abundance on the sandy shoulders of the highway. These tiny plants were growing amongst an abundance of *Juncus bufonius* L., which to my knowledge is the only annual rush previously reported for the United States, and were of such evidently different appearance that I resolved to investigate further. Dr. L. H. Shinnars, of Southern Methodist University, was kind enough to send a loan of annual *Juncus* from other parts of the world, and from the material he sent I have been able to make an identification. My plants are *J. capitatus* Weigel.

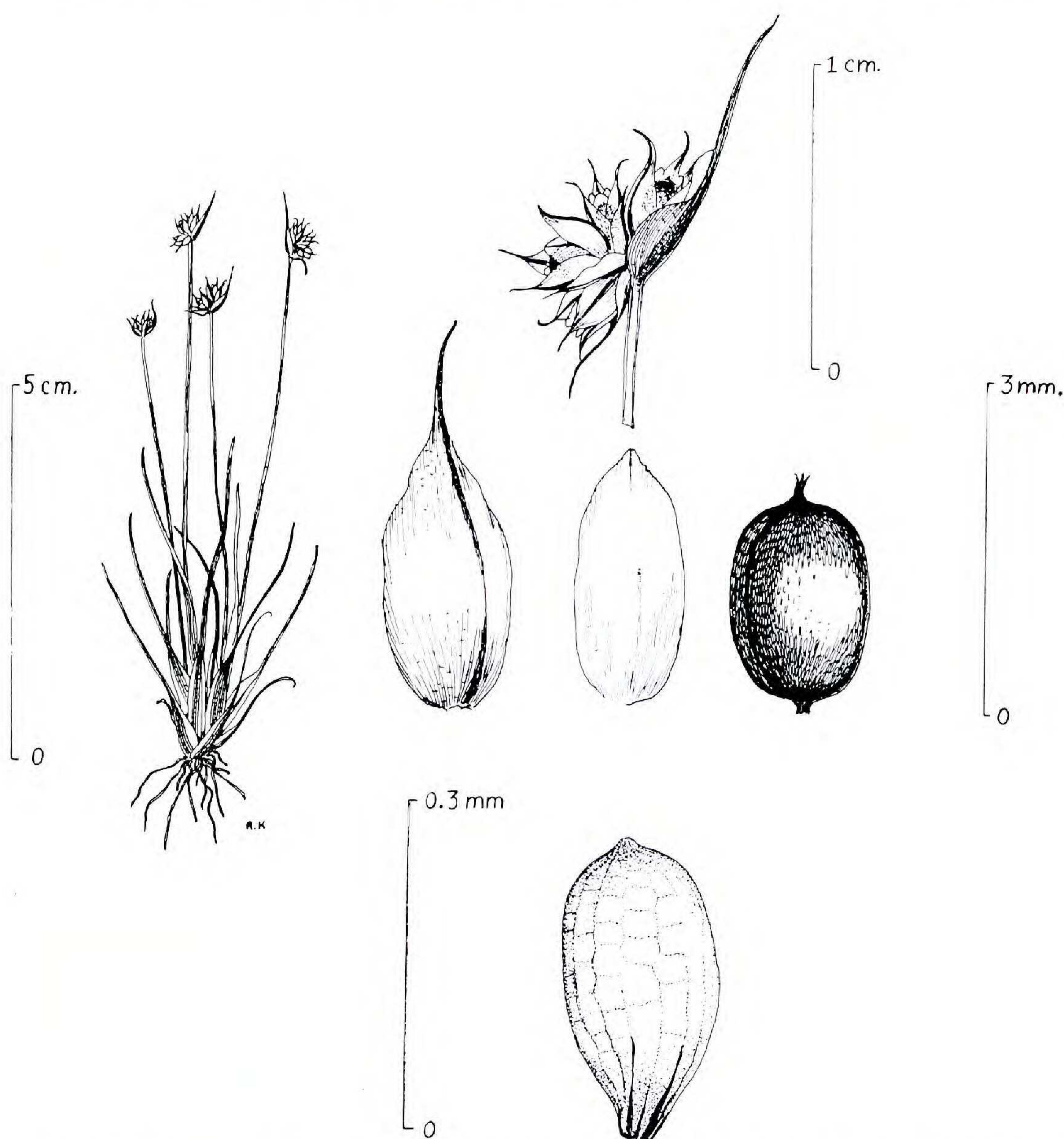
Rendle (in Bentham & Hooker, Handbook of the British Flora, ed. 7, 1930) has the following comments regarding this species: "In sandy situations, in western and southern Europe, and again in the Netherlands, north Germany, and southern Scandinavia. In the British Isles only recorded from West Cornwall and the Channel Islands. Fl. summer." Clapham, Tutin and Warburg (Flora of the British Isles, ed. 2, 1962) report it as follows: "Native. On damp heaths, especially where water has stood during the winter and characteristically associated with *Radiola*, *Isoetes histrix*, etc. Rare; Cornwall, Anglesey; reported from Hebrides (Raasay, Barra, Rhum). 3, S. S. and W. Europe and sparingly through C. Europe to S. Sweden, Finland and N.W. Russia; east to lower Don; Africa; Newfoundland (?introduced), S. America and Australia." Evidently this find is a considerable extension of known range. Since the species is presumed new to our flora, a description of it is included herewith.

*Juncus capitatus* Weigel, Obs. Bot. 28. 1772. Glabrous, tufted annual, the plants greenish, aging maroon. Leaves all basal, linear-filiform, 1.5-3.5 cm. long, flat, the margins thin, somewhat inrolled, the apex acuminate, the base loosely sheathing and with broad, short, scarious margins tapering without auricles into the blade proper. Scape linear-filiform but stiff, 4-9 cm. long, channelled, angled or somewhat flattened in cross section, terminating in headlike, bracteate glomerules of 2-6 subsessile, prophyllate flowers, the glomerules (not including bracts) ca. 4 mm. high. Bracts 1 or 2, lanceolate-attenuate, the longest 1 cm. long or slightly longer, somewhat keeled, the blade translucent, pale save for a broad, dark green (later maroon), thickened midrib which projects as a long-tapering cusp, this terete and somewhat scabrous distally. Flowers much shorter than the longer bract, the sepals ca. 3-4 mm. long, lance-ovate, attenuate, keeled, similar to the bracts in character and prolongation of midrib. Petals oblong or ovate, ca. 2.0-2.5 mm. long, obtuse or broadly



acute, entirely scarious or with faint midrib. Stamens 3. Capsules slightly shorter than the petals, broadly oblong to ovoid, truncate, short-stipitate, apiculate. Seeds obovoid to ellipsoidal, 0.2-0.3 mm. long, reticulate with 12-14 longitudinal striae and quite numerous, fainter, horizontal lines. It is shown in Clapham, Tutin and Warburg's *Flora of the British Isles—Illustrations, Part IV, Monocotyledons* (1965).

Collection data for the present report are as follows: LOUISIANA, Ouachita Parish: sandy shoulders of Interstate 20, by turnoff to Cheniere, particularly abundant where highway traverses large *Nyssa* bottom, R. Kral 20029, 6 May 1964 (VDB, SMU).—Robert Kral, Department



*Juncus capitatus* Weigel. Left, habit sketch of plant. Upper right, inflorescence (enlarged). Middle right, from left to right: sepal, petal, capsule. Lower right, a seed.



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CERASTIUM GLUTINOSUM FRIES (CARYOPHYLLACEAE) IN MISSISSIPPI: NEW TO NORTH AMERICA.—In routinely checking a key to Southeastern *Cerastium* prepared early in 1962 with some newly mounted collections, I was embarrassed to find that it did not work with one sheet of specimens collected by myself. This proved to have a mixture of the common *C. glomeratum* Thuill. (*C. viscosum* of American authors) and three plants of a different species, finally identified with the help of the key in W. Möschl's "Über einjährige europäische Arten der Gattung *Cerastium* (*Orthodon-Fugacia-Leiopetala*)" (Feddes Repertorium Sp. Nov. 41: 153-163, 1936) as *C. glutinosum* Fries of Europe, Asia Minor and North Africa, and matched with one sheet each from France and Germany in the SMU Herbarium. Collection data are as follows. MISSISSIPPI, Wayne Co.: 3.6 miles southeast of Waynesboro, sandy clay road shoulder, Shinnars 29.342, 8 April 1961. The sheet contains two plants of *C. glomeratum* at left (it was originally labeled as that species), and three of *C. glutinosum* at upper right. The latter are less conspicuously pubescent and have somewhat narrower leaves and less congested flowers, but in general appearance are very similar to those of *C. glomeratum*. Numerous collections have been made since in hopes of finding more *C. glutinosum*, but all proved to be *C. glomeratum* but one. The exception (31,204, from vacant lot in Hamilton, Marion Co., Alabama, 22 April 1966) was *C. brachypetalum* Persoon, which also greatly resembles *C. glomeratum*. I suspect that closer examination of herbarium specimens filed as *C. viscosum* would bring to light additional records of different species. My revised key to *Cerastium* in the Southeastern United States is as follows:

- 1a. Petals  $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as the sepals; sepals obtuse to subacute
  - 2a. Floral bracts scarious-margined; plant perennial . . . 1. *C. arvense*
  - 2b. Floral bracts herbaceous throughout; plant annual
    - 3a. Pedicel 1-3 times as long as calyx in flower, up to 5 times in age . . . . . 2. *C. nutans*
    - 3b. Pedicel  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{4}$  times as long as calyx in flower, up to 3 times in age . . . . . 3. *C. brachypodum*
- 1b. Petals slightly longer to shorter than the sepals, or absent; sepals subacute to short-acuminate
  - 4a. Sepals with long hairs on back becoming shorter and stopping below apex
    - 5a. Floral bracts pilose on upper surface . . . . . 4. *C. tetrandrum*
    - 5b. Floral bracts glabrous on upper surface
      - 6a. Sepals 5.0-6.6 mm. long; plant perennial (but may flower in its first year) . . . . . 5. *C. holosteoides*